

Filed for intro on 02/18/98

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 455
By Fowler

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Glenn Draper for his outstanding accomplishments as a choral director.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to help special citizens celebrate milestones in their venerable careers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Glenn Draper is one such person who recently celebrated his 30th year of service to the good people of Chattanooga as director of the First Presbyterian Church choir, the Chattanooga Singers and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Singing Mocs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Draper began his illustrious career in choral music by organizing a male chorus in the Air Force known as the Keesler Male Chorus and, in recent years, founded the renowned Glenn Draper Singers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Draper's choral groups have appeared on the *Ed Sullivan Show*, on the *NBC Weekly* broadcast for two and a half years, and on the weekly national television broadcast of *Changed Lives*, with Dr. Ben Haden; and

WHEREAS, he was the first to present Handel's "Messiah" during Christmas at Keesler Air Force Base, a tradition that is now entering its 46th year at the Base; and

WHEREAS, at the request of his longtime friend and First Presbyterian pastor, Ben Haden, Dr. Draper moved from Miami to Chattanooga to become the church's music director; and

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WHEREAS, he also became director of the Chattanooga Singers and the Singing Mocs that same year, displaying an unparalleled musical talent in each of these capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Draper has also served as Director of Music for the Lake Junaluska World Methodist Center since 1956; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Draper's numerous choral groups have taken 42 overseas tours and have made 22 recordings which are heard around the world each day on various radio and television broadcasts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Draper's choral groups have also performed six White House concerts before four Presidents, and have performed at three Billy Graham Crusades, including the Crusade at Olympic Stadium in Moscow, at the Sydney Opera House in Australia, at Carnegie Hall in New York, and at Albert Hall in London, England; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Draper served as Director of Choral Music at Pfeiffer College and the University of Miami, prior to his service at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, covering a span of 42 years; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a man of Glenn Draper's stature walks among us, and it is fitting that he should be honored for his exemplary service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Dr. Glenn Draper for his 30 years of outstanding service as director of the First Presbyterian Church choir, the U.T.C. Chattanooga Singers and the Singing Mocs, extending to him our heartfelt thanks for his service to the church, the university, and their faithful followers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Dr. Draper with this final clause omitted from such copy.